

## **Progressive Era Project**

Assessment: 30 pts.

### **Objectives:**

1. Describe motivations for and characteristics of the Progressive Era.
2. Analyze an issue that required reform during the Progressive Era.
3. Locate a political cartoon from the Progressive Era that represents this issue and explain its meaning.

### **Tasks (you may work with ONE partner):**

**1. Provide a definition of the Progressive Era in your own words. It can be more than one sentence. Try to include answers to the following questions in your definition (5 points):**

- Why did this era emerge in America History?
- What types of people were leaders of this movement?
- What types of issues were targeted as part of this era?

**2. Choose a topic from the list below and identify a specific issue related to this topic that existed in the U.S. during this era (ex: Labor issues-poor working conditions, government corruption-political machines, etc.):**

- Government corruption
- Women's suffrage
- Labor issues such as working conditions, wages, hours, union formation (you may *not* use child labor as it is the example I provide for you)
- Urban living conditions
- Consumer protection/safety
- Depletion of natural resources
- Alcoholism
- Unfair business practices

**a. Describe each issue, answering the following questions in your response (10 points):**

- How did this issue develop as a result of industrialization and urbanization?
- Why was this issue a problem?

**b. Explain how each problem was addressed or reformed as a result of this era.**

**Include the following in your response (10 points):**

- Describe the reform (might be a new law, creation of a new government agency, efforts by philanthropists or social workers, etc.)
- Explain how it actually solved the problem.

**3. Locate a political cartoon FROM THIS ERA (1890-1914) that represents your problem. Explain the message conveyed by this political cartoon. (5 points)**